

Message Text

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DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS INTERIOR FOR USGS AND BUREAU OF MINES,
AND USAID

CAIRO FOR SCIATT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TPHY EMIN MO
SUBJECT: USGS MOROCCAN TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT

1. JOHN REINEMUND, CHIEF, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGY,
USGS, AND EMBOFF HELD DISCUSSIONS ON AUGUST 24, 25, AND 26,
WITH EL ARBI HILALI, CHIEF OF THE GEOLOGY DIVISION,
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, MINES, AND MERCHANT
MARINE, AND AHMED DEMNATI, CHIEF OF THE GEOPHYSICAL AND
GEOCHEMICAL SERVICE OF THE GEOLOGY DIVISION, CON-
CERNING A PROPOSED TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
USGS AND THE MOROCCAN GEOLOGY DIVISION.

2. IT WAS DECIDED THAT A FORMAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
SHOULD BE SIGNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MR. REINEMUND
WILL PREPARE NA INITIAL DRAFT AGREEMENT BY OCTOBER 1 AND
SEND IT TO THE EMBASSY FOR FORWARDING TO THE GEOLOGY
DIVISION. HE WILL ALSO TAKE CARE OF CASE ACT NOTIFICATION
REQUIREMENTS. ANY MODIFICATIONS DESIRED BY THE MOROCCANS
WILL BE COMMUNICATED BY THE EMBASSY TO USGS. IT IS HOPED
THAT A FINAL AGREEMENT CAN BE SIGNED BY THE END OF THE
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YEAR.

3. THERE WAS A CONSENSUS THAT SUCH AN AGREEMENT SHOULD BE GENERAL, CALLING FOR EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION AND SCIENTISTS WITHIN THE LIMITS OF AVAILABLE FUNDING AND MANPOWER. EXCHANGES WOULD TAKE PLACE IN SUCH AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AS: REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS FOR GEOLOGIC MAPPING AND MINERAL STUDIES; GEOPHYSICAL MODELING AND INTERPRETATION; MINERAL AND ANALYTICAL DATA SYSTEMS; AND, LABORATORY EQUIPMENT AND PLANNING. SUCH EXCHANGES SEEM FEASIBLE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF EXISTING PROGRAMS OF THE TWO AGENCIES. THE AGREEMENT ALSO ENVISAGES, SHOULD ADDITIONAL FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE, A NUMBER OF LARGER AND LONGER-TERM PROJECTS OF INTEREST TO BOTH ORGANIZATIONS. PROJECTS MIGHT INCLUDE: SEDIMENTARY BASIN STUDIES FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCE POTENTIAL; PREPARATION OF A PALEOGEOGRAPHIC ATLAS (WITH INTERPRETATIONS); MINERAL RESOURCES PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT; INTRODUCTION AND DEMONSTRATION OF MINERAL EXPLORATION AND APPRAISAL TECHNIQUES; AND, GEOLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS OF CONTINENTAL SHELF AREAS.

4. IN CONNECTION WITH THE AGREEMENT, IT IS ENVISIONED THAT OPPORTUNITIES WOULD EXIST FOR JOINT STUDY OF MINERAL DEPOSITS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO THE U.S.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY GRATIFIED AT OPEN AND COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE BY MOROCCANS IN THIS AREA. SUCH AN AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNTHINKABLE THREE YEARS AGO AND IS SYMPTOMATIC OF POSITIVE EVOLUTION OF U.S./MOROCCAN RELATIONS. ANDERSON

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